

Monthly Meeting
Friday July 18, 2014

7:30pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette
6pm License Testing

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**Affiliated
Club**

This Month's Meeting Program - CERT **Don Prosnitz, KF6DJI**

Dr. Don Prosnitz is a Senior Principal Researcher (adjunct) at RAND Corporation, an Associate Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Security Research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and has an affiliate appointment at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.



Dr. Prosnitz earned a Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a B.S. in Engineering and Applied Science from Yale University.

He was first licensed as an amateur radio operator in 1996 (talked into it by his son), but did not get on the air until he won a radio in 1998 at Pacificon. He upgraded to General while living in Washington and advising the Department of Justice on their trunked radio system.

He first joined CERT in 2010 to associate with other licensed amateur interested in emergency communications. Today he and Dick DuBey coordinate the CERT communications for the city of Walnut Creek.

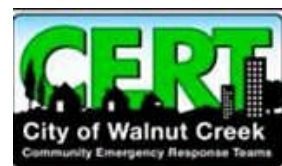
Dick DuBey, KJ6CWQ

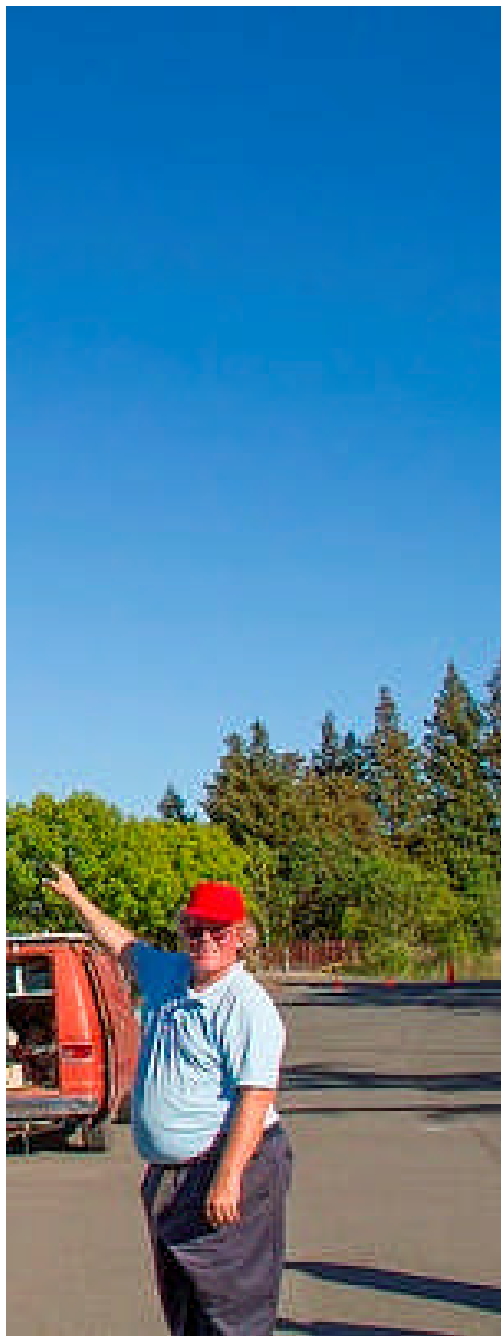


Dick serves as a volunteer with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program in the city of Walnut Creek. He has served as the CERT area coordinator and Incident Commander for the neighborhood where he lived. He assumed the role of CERT training coordinator for the city in January of 2009. Since then he has coordinated, scheduled and completed thirteen training class series for nearly 600 new CERT volunteers.

Dick also acts as the co-chairman of the Walnut Creek Communications Committee and earned his ham license in 2011. Under his leadership, the Walnut Creek CERT community has grown by over forty new amateur radio licensees.

— *David Schild, KK6CQX*
Vice President





Go to page 6 to see what WA6CIE is pointing at during the W6CX Field Day on June 28, 2014 in Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek. (KE6ZIW photo)

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP. DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN **FULL COLOR** AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

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PACIFICON 2014
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Field Day Chairs - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE and Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV
Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV
Holiday Party - Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Annual Picnic - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE
Trailer - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX

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PRESIDENT'S QTC Hello MDARC Members and Friends!



As we move through summer, there are some very exciting things happening with MDARC. First of all, the MDARC Technical Committee made a recommendation to the board of directors that a new 2 meter repeater would be advised to supplant the current repeater atop Mount Diablo. The MDARC board supported this proposal and recommended forwarding the motion to the Club for approval. That was done during the May general meeting. A proposal was presented by Trevor Hall WA6JAU, the MDARC Technical Committee chair and board member. After discussion as to the pros and the cons, the Club voted and approved a new repeater system from Motorola. The current machine is a couple of decades old, and is near the end of its expected useful life. The current machine will be kept as a backup, and used for testing. The new machine has the advantage of being quite narrow on its input and have a really good discriminator. I know that once the machine is purchased and installed, we will have great success with the unit for many years to come. The machine has been purchased and is now in the possession of Trevor. After configuration, this should be placed up on the hill in short order.

I was able to have a nice long QSO with Fred Coe WB6ASU about the current operations of the ATV repeaters. It is really looking up on that mode! Fred and his team have tirelessly worked on building, driving up and down the north peak of Mount Diablo, and installing all sorts of gear. Those watching life via RF or on the web stream I know are quite impressed with the signals that are coming down the hill. I say a big "fine business" to all involved in making that mode really work!

Field Day was a fine success, once again, for MDARC. Lauren Styles WA6CIE was the Field Day chair and organized a fine weekend at Heather Farm park in Walnut Creek. We had many visitors, including ten ARRL league officials. There were several unlicensed folks and newly licensed hams that wanted to take a crack at operating on the high frequency bands. All were given an opportunity, and I believe that everyone that tried was able to make at least one QSO. It was quite fun, and operations operated around the clock for the duration of Field Day. Charles Henry KG6PHZ created and brought a 1.9 kw solar system. All the stations that operated on field day were completely powered by batteries that were exclusively charged by photovoltaic energy. Thank you, Charles, for your assistance and expertise. I know that everyone that participated had a great time, and we all look forward to next year!

At the beginning of summer, I had the opportunity to visit and participate in the ARRL Nevada Convention (NVCON.org) which was held in Virginia City, Nevada. This is a brand new, but hopefully ongoing event. The attendance was fairly low at about 150 attendees for this first year. Hopefully, with more promotion, this will be a gangbuster of an event in the future. After NVCON, my wife Misa, KJ6BUE, my son Louis and my youngest daughter Mary, traveled to Salt Lake City to visit the University of Utah and an antenna material supplier in that fair city. I was able to check out the library at U of U, and found a huge section on all things RF. Actually, you don't get to wander the stacks in this library, instead you look up what you want, and a robot gets your book and delivers it to you through an air lock. Most of the books are kept at a negative pressure to preserve the paper. The library was quite a machine!

From Salt Lake City, my family traveled on to Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, then finally to Seaside, Oregon for the ARRL SeaPac convention. We had a great time, as we always do. We have made this an annual pilgrimage and have become friends with many hams up in the Northwest. I encourage everyone to give SeaPac a try. It really is a fun event!

Summer is a great time for getting outside and operating. Our public service events have lessened - just a bit, and now it's time for you to do something for yourself. Take a hike and bring along you HT or HF gear. It is a lot of fun, and a great way to stay connected to our great hobby.

This summer, I have been studying all things related to antennas and math. This is a little gift that I am giving myself. You often do not take the time to really study hard on a subject, and it is just really fun. I know that I will never be the absolute expert on antenna design, but I sure know more now than I did at the beginning of the summer.

I hope you are all doing something special for yourselves. I hope that you are enjoying your friends and family, the fine weather, may a barbecue or two, and just the wonder of nature. If not, give it a thought!

See you next month!

73,

Jim Siemons AF6PU
President



KG6PHZ, AF6PU, WA6CIE and K6BMD demonstrate one of the W6CX Field Day operating positions to two seated visitors at Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek on June 28, 2014. (KE6ZIW photo)

W6CX Field Day 2014

Photos by Pete Harris, KE6ZIW



KI6LNB,
KA6SIP and
K6OZZ erect
the satellite
antenna



W6CX Field Day 2014

Photos by Pete Harris, KE6ZIW



WA6CIE points one of the W6CX Field Day antennas adjacent to the solar power array at Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek on June 28, 2014.



KA6SIP makes a satellite QSO from his portable station.

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**IC-7600** All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope

**IC-V8000** 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 75 watts • Dynamic Memory Scan (DMS) mode • Free software download • GPS A mode for easy D-PRS operation • One touch reply button (DV mode)
- Weather alert • Weather channel scan • 200 alphanumeric memories

Analog + Digital
Dual Bander
D-STAR

ID-880H

- D-STAR DV mode operation • DR (D-STAR repeater) mode • Free software download • GPS A mode for easy D-PRS operation • One touch reply button (DV mode)
- Wideband receiver

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The radio**FTDX-3000** 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

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FT-60R 2M/440 5W HT

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- 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift

**FT-857D** Ultra Compact HF/VHF/UHF

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The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

www.mdarc.org

FIRST CLASS

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM:



W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 *offset plus 2.5 MHz*

<https://stn3057.ip.irlp.net/status.html>

ATV Inputs: 1289.25 MHz AM; 1277.000 FM pl 192.8 Output 1241.25 MHz AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.3 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

July 2014 and August 2014 Club Calendar

Friday July 18, 2014	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Saturday August 2, 2014	8:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg
Monday August 4, 2014	7:00 pm	MDARC Board Meeting Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek
Friday August 15, 2014	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette